

In the United States Patent & Trademark Office

Applicants: S. Banerjee et al.	Examiner: N. Yang
Serial No.: 10/034,727	Group Art Unit: 1641
Confirmation No. 1379 Filed: 12/26/2001	
For: Directed Assembly of Functional Heterostructures	

Second Preliminary Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Second Preliminary Amendment replaces the Preliminary Amendment filed on 3/21/2007. Please enter the added claims and claim amendments set forth on the enclosed claim listing. Additional claims (nos. 102 to 127) are included with this amendment which were not included with the earlier-filed amendment. It is believed that none of these newly added claims should be subject to restriction or election.

Independent claim 100 is not anticipated and is nonobvious in view of Kain et al. and Anderson et al., as neither reference sets forth that opposed planar surfaces have recesses for accommodating encoded beads (there is no opposed planar surface in either, facing the fiber optic wells disclosed in those references). The support for such recesses is in the application at para. 69 of the published application.

Independent claim 102 recites “generating an AC electric field with the electrodes such that the planar arrays of particles are formed, and polymerizing the polymerization mixture ...” The use of an AC field to form a planar array in this manner is disclosed in

US Patent No. 6,251,691, however there is no suggestion of forming a gel after such an array is formed.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

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Applicant hereby petitions for any petition required to make this submission timely and in compliance with applicable rules. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due in connection with this submission and not otherwise covered by payment included herewith, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 502088.